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The Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

25 July 1985

National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Frederick L. Wetters  
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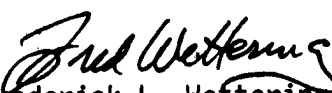
SUBJECT: More Talking Points for the 26 July NSC Meeting  
on South Africa

1. Pursuant to our conversation this afternoon (25 July) attached are some revised talking points prepared by DDI/ALA/AF and myself covering the internal situation and how we see it.

2. Our basic conclusion is that we do not see the black violence getting out of control over the next 12 months, but we expect episodic, controllable flareups to reoccur. This conclusion is based on two points:

- The overwhelming force the South African Government can bring to bear and the demonstrated ruthlessness Pretoria repeatedly has shown in putting down disturbances.
- The anomic nature of the violence whose principal perpetrators are young, disorganized, and appear to respond to no disciplined leadership. This lack of organization will preclude any truly orchestrated violence countrywide or any effective links with outside arms suppliers. However, it also means they will be difficult to totally suppress.

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Att: Talking Points

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## Talking Points For 26 July NSC Meeting: Domestic Outlook

### Most Likely Short-term Scenario

The government's powerful internal security apparatus probably will be able to restore order to the black townships in the coming months, allowing the government to continue with its program of limited racial reform. Sporadic outbursts of violence are likely to reoccur but can be contained.

- The government is determined to use whatever means are necessary to suppress the unrest, and has the ruthlessness, ability, and white support to do so.
- 1 out of 8 whites--some 600,000--participates at least part-time in some aspect of internal security or defense.
- The army has some 400,000 active and reserve members, of which only about 3 percent are blacks.
- The police are a national, paramilitary force with some 45,000 active members, nearly half white, supported by an additional 40,000 reservists.
- Most black townships are located far from white areas and can be sealed off easily by security forces.

The unrest has centered in two urban areas of the country where a total of about 4.5 million blacks reside--representing half of all urban blacks.

- Rural blacks number some 14 million but have never posed a security problem.

The majority of violent incidents appear to have been spontaneous and perpetrated by black youths.

- Half of all blacks are under the age of 18; the townships are full of young blacks angry at the government, bored with township life, and unable to get a job--the black unemployment rate is about 25 percent.
- Black student groups have been active during the unrest and probably are responsible for the most of the successful political agitation occurring.

Important national political and guerrilla groups such as the United Democratic Front and the African National Congress are trying to harness the youths and direct events, but have been unsuccessful. Their rhetoric, however, is fueling the already highly charged political atmosphere.

- The ANC in particular can be expected to try to keep the unrest going if it shows signs of dissipating.

Buthlezi and the Zulus have remained largely on the sidelines during the unrest.

- Their greatest strength is in the Durban area, which has remained relatively calm during the last year.
- Incidents of violence involving Buthelezi's group, Inkatha, has been restricted to attacks on rival black organizations, especially the UDF.

### Possible Future Indicators That Violence Will Persist and Worsen

- White civilians are murdered by terrorist groups or roving gangs of black youths, triggering a bloody response by security forces.

- The black labor movement, with some 500,000 members, organizes effective consumer boycotts and strikes, perhaps even in the mines.
- The government detains Nobel Laureate Bishop Tutu, sparking widespread protests.
- Inkatha members enter the fray and stage largescale violent protests.

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